

## **Major Preservation-Related Provisions in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020**

**Historic Preservation Fund.** The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) will be funded at \$118.66 million, a record high for the fund and \$16 million more FY 2019. The legislation funds all of the HPF programs funded last year and adds a new competitive grants program to preserve and highlight the sites and stories associated with securing civil rights for all Americans, including women, American Latino, Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and LGBTQ Americans. Also of note, the Historic Revitalization Grants program that assists rehabilitation in rural communities has been renamed as the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants, for the Executive Director of Preservation Vermont who passed away on September 19, 2019.

SHPOs - \$52.675 million (\$3 million increase)

THPOs - \$13.735 million (\$2 million increase)

Underrepresented communities grants - \$750,000 (no change)

African American Civil Rights Grants - \$15.5 million (\$1 million increase)

Civil rights for all Americans grants - \$2.5 million (new program)

Grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities - \$10 million (\$2 million increase)

Save America's Treasures grants - \$16 million (\$3 million increase)

Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants - \$7.5 million (\$2.5 million increase)

**ACHP Funding.** The ACHP received \$7.378 million, an increase of \$488,000.

**Proposed Changes to the National Register Regulations.** The legislation's Joint Explanatory Report incorporates by reference the directives contained in earlier House and Senate Reports calling for the National Park Service to withdraw the proposed modifications to the National Register regulations and engage in additional consultation with tribes and other stakeholders.

**Land and Water Conservation Fund.** Funding will be \$495.103 million, \$60 million more than last year.

**Heritage Partnership Program Funding.** National Heritage Areas will receive \$21.944 million, an increase of \$1.623 million. Language in the Joint Explanatory Statement continues a directive given last year to encourage individual heritage areas to develop plans for long-term sufficiency and directing the National Park Service to work with heritage areas to further develop consensus toward a sustainable funding distribution.

**Preserving America's Battlefields Act.** The legislation incorporates this bill, thereby increasing yearly authorized funding to \$18 million and extending authorization for the Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant Program through 2028. The legislation would allow the use of funds for projects other than land acquisition. This would include up to \$1 million in grants for programs and projects that improve battlefield interpretation and up to \$1 million in grants for the restoration of day-of-battle conditions on land preserved through the program. For FY 2020, American Battlefield Protection land acquisition grants are funded at \$13 million, \$3 million more than last year.

**National Park Service Deferred Maintenance.** While a comprehensive approach to funding deferred maintenance may later be addressed through passage of pending legislation on the topic, National Park Service (NPS) funding accounts that currently are used to address the problem received a \$135.915 million increase.

***National Park Service Cultural Programs Funding.*** NPS Cultural Programs funding for administering programs such as the National Register of Historic Places, the Historic Tax Credit program, etc., received \$31.127 million, an increase of \$5.65 million over last year.

***National Park Service International Park Affairs.*** This NPS account is the source of funding for the agency's engagement on the World Heritage Program and received \$1.903 million, an increase of \$255,000.

***National Park Service Networks.*** The legislation provides \$1 million for administration of the NPS national networks, which include the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, the African American Civil Rights Network, the Reconstruction Era National Historic Network, and the World War II Heritage Cities Network.

***National Cultural Resources Information Management System.*** The legislation provides \$1.5 million for the National Cultural Resources Information Management System, an initiative wherein the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) works with western states in a data management and sharing partnership, including cultural heritage data standardization and consistency.

***National Landscape Conservation System.*** The National Landscape Conservation System includes about 36 million acres of National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, National Scenic and Historic Trails, and Wild and Scenic Rivers. The legislation includes a \$4 million increase for the National Conservation Landscape account.

***Greater Chaco Landscape.*** The legislation includes language prohibiting funds from the act being used for oil and gas leasing on any federal lands within the proposed 10-mile withdrawal area around Chaco Culture National Historical Park prior to the completion of a tribal cultural resources investigation to be funded by a \$1 million appropriation. The Joint Explanatory Statement also directs BLM to not conduct any oil and gas leasing activities until the completion of the cultural resources investigation.

***Bureau of Land Management Reorganization.*** The preservation community has expressed concern that the proposed reorganization of BLM will have negative consequences for management of BLM's cultural resources. Reflecting Congressional concern regarding the reorganization, the legislation's Joint Explanatory Report directs the Department of the Interior to begin monthly briefings with the Appropriations Committees on the status of the reorganization, including an initial briefing explaining the plan for ensuring continuity of agency operations and addressing the immediate impacts of likely staff shortages caused by the reorganization. The Statement also notes that there are reprogramming guidelines in place for agencies, and that a reorganization such as BLM's should not be implemented without the advance approval of the Appropriations Committees.

***United States Semiquincentennial Commission.*** The commission received \$3.3 million in operating funds.

***400 Years of African-American History Commission Act.*** The commission received \$3.3 million in operating funds, and the deadline for the final report of the commission was extended one year to July 1, 2021.

***National Endowments Funding.*** The National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities each will receive \$162.25 million, a \$7.25 million increase each.